

J. R. & L. Webb.

[illegible]

claiming our duty to diminish as
much as possible your burdens
at any rate we will take
60 copies; and if we can for
get disperse of any more we
shall be most happy to find
you another order. It was
in consideration in me to say
we would take only 25 and
on reflection I am quite ashamed
of it.

Why don't I "write for the faint
and?" Because I haven't known
what to say. "In the multitude
of counsellors there is wisdom"
is a rule which is not without
its exceptions. I have been afraid
of darkening counsel by words.
Events are speaking, and I
can add ^{nothing} to their eloquence.
Some things are plain and
need no comment; others are

obscure and fine nice to draft
but distortions. Of this class
are the doings and saying of
England and English people
in regard to the war. I mean
to keep out of "distortions" on
this subject. But it is fine:
what difficult. Miss Martineau
patronizing lectures and dog-
matical declarations have
been too much for our nation.
Things able her letters have
never been read with much
interest by the general public.
When the people of Eu-
ropean affairs the people of
what does not much concern
us, and when matter on the
water are in theme, the
blunders, the late diatribes
about the North and the

tariff have been exceedingly
offensive. The insignificant de-
fence of the Queen against
the American (!) report of ^{her} ~~us~~
5. ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~firmly~~ ^{firmly} ridiculous.
I thank you for the kind words
in your enthusiasm of me in
view of your late letter, but I
am not convinced of my er-
ror. I am not unaware of
England's virtues ~~and~~ ^{or} of our
faults. It has been our business
and our policy to set forth both
- and in the broadest possible
context. I think our mission
in this respect has ceased, al-
though it is evident that if we
were to continue it, we might
contribute to the continuation of our
friends on the other side. Un-
- broken abolitionists are more
honest than we. That is, we
show your partialities in a different
way. We criticize and condemn
our Powers that be, and hold them
to the highest demands of justice.
The explanations, apologies, defenses
which we leave to those who occupy
a different plane. Broken abolitionists